

(d) if so, whether any action was taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) The news item has come to the notice of the Railway Administration.

(b), (c) and (d) : Some complaints were received in the past from the travelling public and Members of Parliament stating that certain passengers travelling in long distance mail/express trains and also deluxe trains indulge in consumption of alcoholic drinks and cause nuisance to the fellow passengers.

Taking into account these complaints the Ministry of Railways have prohibited consumption of alcoholic drinks in all Second Class compartments, Air-Conditioned and Non-Air-Conditioned Chair Cars and in Second Class AC Sleeper coaches. In compartment type coaches namely First Class and First Class AC, the following notice is displayed :

“Please do not consume alcoholic drinks in compartments as a consideration to the fellow passengers.”

The Railway Administrations have also been instructed that train conductors, guards, travelling ticket examiners, ticket checking staff, coach attendants, etc. should take as a part of their responsibility to enforce strictly the railways rules regarding consumption of alcoholic drinks in trains.

The Railways also conduct periodic and surprise checks on trains especially Rajdhani and other fast trains to apprehend those who indulge in sale or drinking of liquor against the railways rules.

Employment to Players in Railways

2543. **SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the good players, who are graduates also, are appointed as class IV employees in Railways Departments ;

(b) whether there is justification for appointing graduate players in class IV posts ;

(c) whether Government propose that such persons should be given appointment in class III posts at least ; and

(d) the number of players given employment in Railway Department during the last three years, year-wise in different categories, category-wise ?

THE MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) to (c) : The Railways have prescribed a set of guidelines which are applied while considering cases of sportsmen for recruitment in Railway services against Sports Quota. There are separate guidelines for recruitment in Class III and Class IV. The standards for the former are higher than those for the latter. While the Sportsmen so recruited are required to possess certain minimum prescribed educational qualification, the real emphasis is laid on his/her sports achievement at the National level. Therefore cases of Sportsmen who may be graduates but not sufficiently accomplished in sporting talent are not considered for appointment in Class III service. They are, then offered appointment commensurate with their sports achievement.

(d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

National Highway Passing Through Madhya Pradesh

2544. **SHRI MOHAN LAL JHIKRAM :** Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state Number of National Highways passing through Madhya Pradesh and the names of places which are linked by them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : There are eight number of National

Highways passing through the State of Madhya Pradesh. Various important places connected by them are given below :—

Sl. No.	N. H. No.	Important places connected
1.	3	Gwalior--Shivpuri—Guna—Biaora—Shajapur—Dewas—Indore—Mhow—Gujri—Sendhwa.
2.	6	Saraipalli—Pithora—Raipur—Bhilai—Durg—Rajnandgaon.
3.	7	Mangawan—Rewa—Maihar—Katni—Jabalpur—Lakhnardon—Seoni—Kawasa.
4.	12	Jabalpur—Belkheda—Deori—Goharganj—Obaidullaganj—Bhopal—Narsingharh—Biaora—Rajgarh.
5.	25	Shivpuri—Karera—Dinara.
6.	26	Sagar—Kareli—Narsinghpur—Lakhnardon.
7.	27	Chakghat—Mangawan.
8.	43	Raipur—Dhamtari—Kanker—Kondagaon—Jagdapur.

Widening of National Highway No. 29

2545. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the year in which the scheme to widen the Varanasi-Gorakhpur National Highway No. 29 was approved and the time by which its construction work was scheduled to be completed ;

(b) whether the work thereon was completed within the schedule time by the Works Department ;

(c) if not, the kilometrage of road where construction work is lying incomplete at present and the reasons therefor ; and

(d) the amount so far spent on carrying out repairs of the newly built reaches ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) to (d) : Out of the total length of 211.3 Km. of National Highway No. 29, 200.60 Km. are outside Municipal limits and are the responsibility of the Government of India.

Since 1972, widening the road to two lanes has been sanctioned in 135.5 Km. length, out of which work has been completed in a length of 125 Kms.

Initially, the work in 112.5 Km. sanctioned in 1972 was delayed mainly due to shortage of funds in the years 1974 to 1980. These works were com-